

## Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /052 W

----- 111417

R 191115Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3749

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KATHMANDU 5459

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, NP

SUBJECT: PRESS POLEMICS MAR NEW ATMOSPHERE IN INDO-NEPALI  
RELATIONS

1. A SHORT EXCHANGE OF PRESS POLEMICS HAS THREATENED TO MAR THE HONEYMOON ATMOSPHERE IN BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND NEPAL WHICH PRIME MINISTER TULSI GIRI HAS TRIED TO FOSTER. WRITING IN THE INDIAN EXPRESS, THE WELL KNOWN INDIAN JOURNALIST KULDIP NAYAR RESPONDED TO PRIME MINISTER GIRI'S RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE (KATHMANDU 5223) WITH CONSIDERABLE SKEPTICISM AND PROCEEDED TO REITERATE AN EXTENSIVE LIST OF GOI GRIEVANCES AGAINST NEPAL. QUICKLY TAKING UP THE CUDGELS, MANARANJAN JOSSE OF RISING NEPAL RESPONDED IN A LONG ARTICLE IN WHICH HE TOOK NAYAR TO TASK, AS WELL AS "THOSE SEGMENTS OF THE INDIAN PRESS WHICH CONTINUE TO PRINT FALSEHOODS" AGAINST NEPAL. ALTHOUGH THE AFFAIR SEEMS NOW TO HAVE DIED DOWN, IT CAME AT AN UNFORTUNATE TIME WHEN THE GIRI GOVERNMENT HAD OFFERED AN OLIVE BRANCH TO NEW DELHI, NOT ONLY IN THE FORM OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S PRESS STATEMENTS, BUT ALSO BY MAKING CONCESSIONS ON SEVERAL KEY ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

2. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO A HIGHLY PLACED INDIAN DIPLOMAT HERE, THE NAYAR PIECE WAS THE DIRECT RESULT OF A BRIEFING BY N.N. JHA, FORMER INDIAN DCM IN KATHMANDU AND CURRENTLY MFA JOINT SECRETARY FOR THE NORTHERN DIVISION. JHA IS CONSIDERED TO BE "ANTI  
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NEPALESE" AND FAR FROM OBJECTIVE REGARDING HMG INTENTIONS

TOWARDS INDIA. ACCORDING TO THE SAME SOURCE, AMBASSADOR  
RASGOTRA SENT A SHARP MESSAGE TO THE MFA FOLLOWING THE NAYAR  
STORY IN WHICH HE POINTED OUT THAT SUCH STORIES WERE HARDLY  
HELPFUL TO HIS MISSION IN KATHMANDU. HOPEFULLY THE ISSUE WILL  
NOW BE ALLOWED TO SUBSIDE AND POLEMICS BY BOTH  
GOVERNMENTS WILL CEASE.  
CARGO

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, JOURNALISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Film Number:** D750443-0158  
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